

Keeping you up to date on

Demand Management activities



e-newsletter – May 2019

Keeping you switched on

Welcome to the latest edition of our e-newsletter. This first quarter has been focussed on the development of some of our research and demand management project activities including the launch of Ausgrid's first Virtual Power Plant. On the regulatory side, we have brought forward the application of the DMIS to ensure that identified needs for 2019/20 are eligible for the scheme, and the AER has published Ausgrid's distribution determination for 2019 to 2024.

If you have any questions regarding any of the topics below or another issue of interest please feel free to contact us at demandmanagement@ausgrid.com.au.

Happy reading

Craig Tupper
Manager, Demand Management & Forecasting

In this edition



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Ausgrid's First Virtual Power Plant Launched

Ausgrid launched its first Virtual Power Plant (VPP) in partnership with Reposit Power in March with about 250 customers across 170 suburbs in Ausgrid's network service area. The VPP is part of a multi-year research trial to help Ausgrid develop innovative solutions that lowers costs for all customers.



This month, Ausgrid will publish a Request for Proposal (RFP) to expand the VPP beyond its current 1 Megawatt scale to ensure the trial captures the wide range of providers, battery manufacturers and technologies that are reflected in the market. Notification of publication of the RFP will be via Ausgrid's DM engagement register. We encourage all interested demand management providers to respond to the RFP.

► [More information about Ausgrid's VPP is available here.](#)

Early Application of the Demand Management Incentive Scheme (DMIS) for Ausgrid

In March 2019, the AER approved Ausgrid's application for early access to the new Demand Management Incentive Scheme effective from 31 March 2019. Early access to the DMIS will help facilitate non-network solutions for smaller projects on our 11kV network. The Gillieston Heights Project below is an example of a project that will benefit from early application

► [More information about the AER's final decision is available here.](#)



Request for Proposals - Ausgrid's Gillieston Heights Project

Ausgrid has published a Request for Proposal (RFP) document to seek non-network solutions from the market to address forecast demand growth in the Gillieston Heights area. The growth is attributed to an increase in residential developments in the area which are expected to impact capacity constraints on three of the local 11kV distribution feeders.

Ausgrid invites demand management proposals via [Ausgrid's Tenderlink portal](#) (Ref: [AUSGRD-859530](#)) by 28 May 2019.

► [To view the RFP and to find out how to submit a proposal, visit our website.](#)

Ausgrid investigates stand-alone power systems to help lower the cost of network investment

Ausgrid is exploring the potential uses and benefits of stand-alone power systems for remote customers as an alternative solution to traditional network infrastructure. We have published a Request for Proposal seeking quotes from industry specialists to provide tools to determine sizing and pricing of stand-alone power systems within our network. This will help Ausgrid to assess the feasibility of stand-alone power system to reduce the overall cost of operating the network.

► [More information about this project is available at Ausgrid's Tenderlink portal.](#)

Ausgrid joins consortium in Charge Together Project

This year Ausgrid joined the Charge Together Project in partnership with Evenergi, Government of South Australia, NSW Government, ARENA, NRMA and the Electric Vehicle Council.

During 2019, the project will aim to develop an EV fleet program and consumer app to assist consumers and businesses with transitioning to electric vehicles. If your organisation is interested in joining the Charge Together Fleets program click [here](#).

Ausgrid will also be working with the project partners to develop forecast improvements to plan for the impacts of electric vehicle charging on the local electricity network and to prepare for the future electrification of the transport sector.

► [A preliminary report for the first phase of the project can be found here](#)



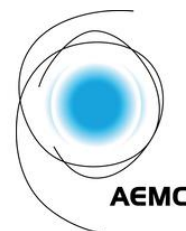
AER's Final Determination on Ausgrid's Revised Regulatory Proposal 2019-2024

The Australian Energy Regulatory (AER) has published its final determination on Ausgrid's revised regulatory proposal for the period covering 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2024. In its determination, the AER accepted Ausgrid's request for \$10.2 million in opex to fund demand management services to defer capex projects. The Gillieston Heights project above is the first RFP published as part of Ausgrid's 2019-24 demand management program.

► [The AER's final determination and Ausgrid's revised proposal can be accessed here](#).

Wholesale Demand Response Mechanism Rule Change

In November 2018 the AEMC initiated a rule change and published a consultation paper in response to requests from industry stakeholders seeking to introduce a wholesale demand response mechanism for the national electricity market. The proponents' requests included the creation of a new category of market participant, the demand response service provider (DRSP), which would enable single load or aggregated demand response providers to participate in the wholesale market, thereby enabling consumers to participate.



As part of the consultation process a stakeholder workshop and technical working group meetings were held during the first quarter of 2019. [Discussion notes from these meetings are available here](#).

An extension to the date for the final determination of the rule was made by the AEMC to 14 November 2019 to allow time for additional stakeholder consultation required to discuss the complexity of issues raised by the submissions.